

## 7.7 DEACON FACULTIES PAGELLA

### Preaching

1. Deacons, with at least the presumed consent of the pastor of the church, have the faculty in The Code of Canon Law to preach everywhere, unless this faculty has been restricted or removed by the competent ordinary, or unless particular law requires express permission. (can. 764).

### Baptism

1. The ordinary minister of baptism is a bishop, a presbyter, or a deacon, without prejudice to the prescript of can. 530, n.1. (which lists those functions that, while no longer reserved to the pastor, are considered as especially entrusted to him.) (can. 861)
2. Except in as case of necessity, no one is permitted to confer baptism in the territory of another without the required permission, not even upon his own subjects. (can. 862)
3. (Restriction) The baptism of adults, at least of those who have completed their fourteenth year, is to be deferred to the diocesan bishop so that he himself administers it if he has judged it expedient. (can. 863)

### Marriage

1. Permission of the proper pastor should be obtained for marriages outside the parish to which the deacon is assigned.
2. Deacons with a parochial assignment have the delegation to grant the dispensation from the impediment of disparity of cult and the permission for mixed marriages involving a member of the parish.

### Christian Burial

1. Permission is granted to all deacons in the diocese to lead, without recourse to the bishop, The Rite of Christian Burial for a child not yet baptized but whose parents had intended to have the child baptized (can. 1183, §2).
2. Permission is granted to all deacons in the diocese to lead without recourse to the bishop, ecclesiastical funeral rites, in the presence of the cremated remains of the body of a deceased person, (Indult, Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, Prot. N. 1589/96/L) with due respect for can. 1184.

### Miscellaneous

1. The provisions of The Code of Canon Law state that deacons are:
  - a. ordinary ministers of the Sacrament of Baptism (can. 861, §1);
  - b. ordinary ministers for the distribution of Holy Communion (can. 910, §1);
  - c. ordinary ministers for exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and the Eucharistic blessing (can. 943);

- d. administrators of only those blessings which are expressly permitted to them by law (can. 1169 §3).
2. As noted in the *National Directory for the Formation, Ministry, and Life of Permanent Deacons in the United States* (USCCB, 2005), “The deacon can preside at the liturgies of the word and communion services in the absence of a priest. He may officiate at celebrations of the Liturgy of the Hours and at exposition and benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. He can conduct public rites of blessing, offer prayer services for the sick and dying, and administer the Church’s sacramentals, as designated in the *Book of Blessings*.” These blessings would include, but are not limited to, blessings of a married couple, the parents after a miscarriage, those gathered at a meeting, a new home, an office, animals, and seeds at planting time, religious articles, an Advent wreath, or a Nativity scene.
3. In accord with the provisions of the Rite of Ordination, deacons in the diocese have the permission of the bishop to preside over public prayers, to give viaticum (Holy Communion) to the dying, and to lead the Rites of Christian Burial, all in accord with the appropriate liturgical norms and canons of the church.